



Sunrise Abelia

Abelia x grandiflora 'Sunrise'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ☐ ☒

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Other Names: Glossy Abelia

Description:

This outstanding shrub has glossy foliage that emerges yellow-green and matures to dark green with gold to ivory edges; tidy, mounded habit and tubular pinkish white flowers that are long blooming; a welcome addition to smaller spaces in the garden

Ornamental Features

Sunrise Abelia features dainty clusters of lightly-scented white tubular flowers with pink overtones at the ends of the branches from early summer to early fall. It has attractive dark green foliage edged in creamy white with hints of gold which emerges buttery yellow in spring. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and turn outstanding shades of gold, orange and red in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Sunrise Abelia is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.



Sunrise Abelia
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Sunrise Abelia
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds, bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Sunrise Abelia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Sunrise Abelia will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. You may want to keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. To help this plant achieve its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Sunrise Abelia makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



Sunrise Abelia flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder